

APPENDIX B - TERMS AND DEFINITIONS

Ability	Preparedness in both personal and professional life to respond quickly and for the necessary period of time.
Action Plan	A list of taskings to organizational elements to be accomplished within an operational period.
Administration/ Finance Section	Team function responsible for keeping track of incident-related costs, personnel, and incident records, and administering procurement contracts associated with the incident or event.
After Action Report	Documentation of mission accomplishments, actions, and other pertinent information and is usually assembled immediately following completion of the assignment and return home.
American Red Cross	During the disaster recovery effort, the ARC assists disaster victims with immediate needs, which include food, clothing, shelter, transportation, and medical care until additional assistance is obtained.
Area of Operations	An assigned work location for a Team deployed to a disaster.
Base of Operations	The on-site facility at which primary support, coordination, communications, and decision-making activities are performed during response missions. The BoO will have Control Center and a Communications Center, where input from the field is received, analyzed, processed, and dispatched by BoO personnel. Only one BoO will be established for each incident and should not be moved.
Cache	A predetermined complement of medical, logistical, life support and other equipment established to allow an NDMS Team to accomplish its mission when deployed to a disaster site.
Clearing-Staging Unit	A function of a DMAT or group of DMATs designed to 1) receive, triage, and provide emergency care and supportive treatment for trauma patients until evacuated; 2) provide definitive care for patients with minor illnesses or injuries; and 3) provide limited support for itself and its patients in field operations.

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Cold Zone	Geographical area in a HazMat incident free of contamination. No PPE is necessary for entry.
Decon Zone	Geographical area in a HazMat incident where contaminants are removed from exposed personnel, usually by washing with a solution of bleach before moving patients to definitive medical treatment in the Medical Zone.
Demobilization Plan	A plan that details the return of an NDMS Team to their original Point of Departure at the conclusion of their mission in the field.
Disaster Mortuary Team	Provides victim identification and mortuary services for disaster victims. Teams are composed of Funeral Directors, Medical Examiners, Coroners, Pathologists, Forensic Anthropologists, Medical Records Technicians and Transcribers, Finger Print Specialists, Forensic Odontologists, Dental Assistants, X-ray Technicians, Mental Health Specialists, Computer Professionals, Administrative support staff, and Security and Investigative personnel.
Disaster Medical Assistance Team	A team composed of professional and paraprofessional medical personnel (supported by a cadre of logistical and administrative staff) designed to provide emergency medical care during a disaster or other event. In mass casualty incidents, their responsibilities include triaging patients, providing austere medical care, and preparing patients for evacuation.
Emergency Medical Services	Refers to the various pre-hospital medical support systems available within the affected State.
Emergency Operations Center	The protected site from which civil government officials (municipal, county, State, and Federal) exercise centralized direction and control in an emergency. Operating from an EOC is a basic emergency management concept, etc.
Emergency Support Function	A functional area of response activity established to facilitate the delivery of Federal assistance required during the immediate response phase of a disaster to save lives, and protect property, and public health.

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Emergency Support Team	An interagency Federal team that provides Federal support to on-site activities being conducted by the ERT. The EST is housed in the EICC at FEMA HQ in Washington, DC.
Epizootic	Diseases prevalent among animals.
Experience	Documented, satisfactory performance in a specified position needed to qualify for another (usually higher level) position.
Federal Response Plan	The plan that facilitates the Federal response to disasters in the U.S., territories and other U.S. jurisdictions. The plan outlines the planning assumptions, policies, concept of operations, organizational structures, and specific assignments of responsibility to Federal Departments and Agencies prior to and during disasters.
Federal Emergency Management Agency	The Federal agency, that is mandated by legislation, to manage the Federal response and recovery efforts on Presidentially declared disasters or emergencies.
Hazardous Materials	Any substance or material in a particular form or quantity that the Secretary of Transportation finds may pose an unreasonable risk to health, safety, and property, or any substance in a quantity that may be harmful to humans, etc.
Home Base	The fixed location for a Team to use for a base for administrative matters and as an assembly point during deployments and a return point for Team personnel at the conclusion of a mission.
Hot Zone	Geographical area in a HazMat incident with the highest and most toxic levels of contaminants. No entry can be made without proper PPE.
Incident Command System	Combination of facilities, equipment, personnel, procedures, and communications, operating within a common organizational structure, with responsibility for managing assigned resources to effectively direct and control.

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Knowledge	Refers to an organized body of information, usually of a factual or procedural nature, which, if applied, makes adequate performance of the job possible.
Level A protection	Personnel protective equipment level for a HazMat incident that includes full encapsulation with airtight chemical resistant suit with SCBA, cotton inner gloves, and nitrile outer gloves.
Level B protection	Personnel protective equipment level for a HazMat incident that includes splash suit or full coverage non-airtight chemical suit with SCBA, latex or vinyl inner gloves, and nitrile outer gloves.
Level C protection	Personnel protective equipment level for a HazMat incident that includes splash suit with cartridge respirator for organic vapors, HEPA mask, vinyl inner gloves, and nitrile outer gloves.
Level D protection	Personnel protective equipment level for a HazMat incident that includes ordinary clothing, such as coveralls, boots, latex exam gloves, and goggles or faceshield.
Logistics Section	A Team function responsible for providing adequate resources to support all incident or event needs.
Management Support Team	Provides management and coordination of on-site HHS health and medical response resources and technical expertise in accordance with national response agreements.
Mass Decon	Greater than 20 people in need of decontamination.
Medical Zone	An area in an NMRT/WMD operation where victims enter after decon to receive medical care and before they are released or handed off to outside medical care.
Mobilization Center	A temporary facility set up and used to receive, process and support resources/response teams during the mobilization and demobilization phases of a mission.

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National Disaster Medical System	Assists in the delivery of health care for victims of incidents that exceed the medical care capability of an affected State, region, or Federal health care system. NDMS is a joint effort of HHS, DOD, FEMA, and VA. Each agency manages a particular component of the system. NDMS is designed to provide medical aid in the form of medical response teams, a medical evacuation system, and a network of hospitals that have agreed in advance to accept patients in the event of a mass casualty emergency.
National Interagency Incident Management System	An NWCG-developed program consisting of five major subsystems which collectively provide a total systems approach to all-risk incident management. The subsystems are: The Incident Command System, Training, Qualifications and Certification, Supporting Technologies, and Publications Management.
National Medical Response Teams/Weapons of Mass Destruction	An NDMS Team equipped and trained to provide initial medical care for victims of weapons of mass destruction (nuclear, biological, or chemical.) These teams are trained and equipped to function at the contaminated incident site and assist the local incident commander with agent identification, decontamination of victims, and medical care.
National Transportation Safety Board	The agency of the Federal government with the lead role in investigating transportation disasters and coordinating the provision of federal services to the families of victims.
Operations Section	A Team function responsible for directing the tactical actions to meet incident objectives of the mission.
Planning Section	A Team function responsible for the collection, evaluation, and display of incident information, maintaining status of resources, and preparing Action Plans and incident-related documentation.
Point of Arrival	The designated location within or near the disaster-affected area where Team members, supplies, and equipment are initially directed to report prior to the Staging Area.

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Point of Departure	The designated location outside the disaster-affected area from which Teams will deploy to the disaster. Usually an airfield.
Qualified Individual	A person who had documented that they have met all training and experience requirements for the position.
Rapid Response Personnel	Personnel who dress in PPE and enter contaminated areas to remove, decontaminate, and provide critical medical interventions to contaminated people.
Resource Tracking	The process by which items from the equipment cache that are assigned to Team members while on a mission are monitored as to location and accountability of usage.
Resupply	The process of restocking items used in the course of a Team mission, normally by the Logistics Section. This involves ordering equipment and supplies for the equipment cache that have been depleted and are essential for the continuation of the mission.
Safety Plan	A plan developed by the Safety Officer that details all safety hazards of the mission.
Situation Reports	Summaries of the disaster situation, status of operations, and identification of future priorities for response and recovery operations.
Skill	Refers to the proficient manual, verbal, or mental manipulation of data or things. Skill can be readily measured by a performance test where quantity and quality of performance are tested, usually within an established time limit. Examples of proficient manipulation of things are skill in typing or in operating a vehicle. Examples of proficient manipulation of data are skills in keeping track of multiple resources, times and locations, events or activities, priorities, and deadlines in the disaster environment.
Support Zone	A non-contaminated area in an NMRT/WMD operation behind the Decon Zone where support equipment and vehicles are staged.

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United States	The 50 States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, and the Northern Mariana Islands.
Universal Precautions	Procedures of medical treatment that assume all patients are infected with communicable diseases. Published by the CDC.
Urban Search And Rescue	The term used to define the strategy, tactics, and operations for locating, providing medical stabilization and treatment, and extrication of entrapped victims in collapsed structures. Performed on a national level by FEMA sponsored US&R Task Forces.
Veterinary Medical Assistance Team	An NDMS Team staffed to provide assessments of clinical needs, care and handling, sheltering and evacuation, inspection and disease surveillance, technical assistance, and hazard mitigation for animals.
Warm Zone	Geographical area in a HazMat incident where contamination is still present although in a reduced amount. Entry still requires proper PPE.
Zoonotic	Diseases of animals communicable to man.